

Message Text

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ORIGIN SY-10

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 085889

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC; PINS

SUBJECT: MARINE SECURITY GUARD - LUSAKA

REF: YOUR 0766 DATED 28 APRIL 1973

1. WE HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION WITH MINISTER MUDENA INCLUDING THE ATTACHMENTS. WE BELIEVE THAT YOUR AIDE MEMOIRE IS EXCELLENT.

2. WHILE THERE ARE NO RECENT SPECIFIC INCIDENTS KNOWN REGARDING TERRORISTS ATTEMPTS ON U. S. EMBASSY PREMISES WITHIN THE NON ARAB ALIGNED COUNTRIES IN AFRICA, WE MUST REITERATE THE CONTINUING THREAT OF SUCH ATTACKS AS A RESULT OF THE BSOS PUBLIC ATTEMPTS TO BLAME THE U. S. GOVERNMENT FOR THE ISRAELI RAIDS ON THE BSO LEADERS IN BEIRUT. THERE HAVE ALSO BEEN RECENT ATTEMPTS IN BEIRUT AND AMMAN TO ENTER OUR EMBASSIES.

3. WE CAN ALSO POINT TO A THREE YEAR PERIOD (1969 - 1972) IN SOUTH AMERICA WHERE THE TUPAMAROS AND RELATED TERRORISTS GROUPS, ATTACKED OR ATTEMPTED TO ATTACK MOST OF OUR EMBASSIES IN SOUTH AND CENTRAL AMERICA. THE WAVE OF TERRORISM INCLUDED THE ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADORS, CONFIDENTIAL

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KIDNAPPING, MOB VIOLENCE AGAINST OUR OFFICIAL PREMISES, ETC. THE MINIMAL LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY CASES ARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO STRONG DEFENSIVE MEASURES TAKEN. WE SEE A GREAT AMOUNT OF SIMILARITY IN THE TACTICS USED BY THE AL FATAH AND THE NEED TO BE PREPARED FOR THEM.

4. WE SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER THE FACT THAT THE AL FATAH MIGHT MORE READILY HAVE CAPTURED OUR EMBASSY INSTEAD OF THE ISRAELI EMBASSY IN BANGKOK OR OUR EMBASSY IN KHARTOUM RATHER THAN THE SAUDI ARABIAN EMBASSY, IF OUR EMBASSIES HAD NOT BEEN WELL GUARDED. IN BOTH PLACES, THE MARINE GUARDS AT OUR EMBASSIES WERE CONTRIBUTING FACTORS TO DETER THEM.

5. WE HAVE CONSIDERABLE EVIDENCE FROM INTELLIGENCE REPORTS THAT PLANS TO ATTACK OTHER U. S. EMBASSIES OR CAPTURE PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN THWARTED BY GOOD PROTECTIVE MEASURES. IT IS BASICALLY, ONE OF THE PRIME PURPOSES OF A GOOD GUARD FORCE TO DETER WOULD- BE INTRUDERS.

6. EXPERIENCE HAS SHOWN THAT WHERE FACILITIES ARE WELL PROTECTED IN ONE PLACE, THE TERRORIST HAS A TENDENCY TO LOOK FOR AN OPPORTUNITY AT FACILITIES OR PLACES WHERE THE PROTECTIVE MEASURES ARE NOT AS GOOD. FOR THIS REASON WE WANT TO HAVE THIS MARINE GUARD DETERRENT IN ALL OUR EMBASSIES.

7. FINALLY, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT THE SITUATION WHERE WE HAVE A SINGLE WOMAN AMBASSADOR MAY PRESENT AN INVITING TARGET TO THE TERRORIST. THE MARINE GUARD PRESENCE WOULD BE A POSITIVE PROTECTIVE MEASURE FOR HER ALSO. IF THERE WERE A MARINE GUARD CONTINGENT, SHE WOULD BE IN TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH THEM AND THEY COULD BE CALLED UPON TO PROVIDE PROTECTION AT THE RESIDENCE WHEN NECESSARY. ROGERS

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